

Revision of policies that govern broadcasting corporations is long overdue. Allowing control of public airspace to a few corporations is draining Americans of their basic right to freedom of information.

Below is a description of the issues, using Sinclair Broadcasting as an example. Please act now to preserve this fundamental freedom which is at the core of our democracy.

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Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.